Proceedings

In the discussion that followed, Members emphasised that the sentiments of the proposed Resolution were voiced by the Commission in its 40th session in connection with the Mysore State Archives. But the present Resolution was purely negative and hypothetical. After discussing the various pros and cons of the problem, the Commission rejected the resolution.

(b) Need for uniform system of management and administration

Resolution by Dr.M.N.Das

Resolved that a uniform system of management and administration be adopted for all the State Archives of India with specific directives and regulations for archival affairs.

Explanatory Note

The sizes of different State Archives may remain different, but the utility of a uniform system of principles and functions, with a common administrative pattern for all of them, cannot be denied. At present, smaller Archives have not only an adequate, not to speak of trained staff, but do not have a precise idea of the exact functions expected of those. Without uniform rules and regulations, the expected duties and functions remain more or less matters of secondary importance. The utility and value of Archives are also not properly understood by the public when the Archives themselves have no definite functional programmes. Moreover, without regulations to that effect, the gulf between the researcher and the Archives remains wide.

Secretary's Note

The Committee on Archival Legislation has provided the guidelines in respect of all aspects of archival administration, and these are equally applicable to the Central and all the State Governments. (Paras 74-77 and 83-84).

Proceedings

The resolution was not discussed due to the absence of the mover.

(7) Responsibility of State Directors with regard to State Records

(a) Director of Archives to be responsible for preservation etc. of all Government records

Resolution by Dr.Bakhshish Singh Nijjar

All the Government records with the State should be looked after, with regard to their preservation etc. by the Director of Archives concerned.

Explanatory Note

During the survey of records both at the District and Divisional level in the State, it was noticed that the condition of the records is very deplorable and proper attention is not paid to the care of these records by the offices concerned. No arrangement exists in the offices for the preservation of records and consequently their condition is deteriorating day by day. The archival wealth of the nation is thus being wasted for want of proper care.

It would, therefore, be in the fitness of things if these records are placed in the custody of the State Archives so far as their preservation is concerned, which is in a position to render great service to the records by repairing